

OR,  
THE SPURIOUS  
PROGNOSTICATOR  
UNMASKED.

BEING  
A short EXAMEN of the manifold Errors  
and Fallacies, Falshoods and Flatteries,

Published by Mr. W. LILLY,  
In his MERLIN 1659.

Wherein his Ignorance in Astrology is explained and  
exploded; His scandalous girdings at the King of  
*Denmark*, Duke of *Brandenburgh*, and the States of *Hol-*  
*land*, Noted; his Nefarious dealing with the late Lord  
Protector of *England*, and the King of *Sweden*, discover-  
ed; His Impudent, Arrogant and Artless Assertions,  
Retorted and Refuted.

*John Gadbury.*

By G. J. a Lover of Art and Honesty.

*Humanum est errare: Facere belluinum: perseverare diabolicum.*

LONDON,  
Printed in the Year 1660.

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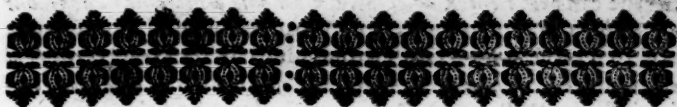
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ΠΕΤΔΑΣΤΡΟ'ΑΟΓΟΣ.

O R,

## *The Spurious Prognosticator, &c.*

**M**After *William Lilly* being a person (by the vulgar sort) believed to be the most famous Astrologer that ever yet appeared on the English Stage: In his *Merlin*, 1656. he witnesseth the same of himself, thus — *We* (saith he) *have been a servant to the unthankful; we have shared in honour and dishonour: Notwithstanding all which — we have had all along since 1644. as general and full a Practise in all the known parts of Astrology, as ever any man of this Nation.*

I shall not Comment upon this his Notorious Boast, nor Question whether his deserts have been as worthy, as his Practise large. Neither shall I trouble my self with noting any of his former failings (unless Collaterally) which may (I question not, upon a strict examen) equal the hairs of his head for number; though I presume it would be not an affront, but favour unto Astrology so to do. Yet, Notwithstanding his great fame and [supposed] great skill, I may (I hope) be bold to retort the Errours of his this years *Merlin* upon him, because he hath therein so notoriously deviated from Art, and so prodigiously scandalized the same.

*If that Great Artists for to Sin be bold,  
I see no reason but they should be told.*

Now that I may proceed Methodically, I shall consider, (1.) This (supposed) Great Artist's Epistle. (2.) His General Judgements. (3.) His Monethly Fictions. *Sett. I.* I shall begin with his Epistle. And would gladly be informed by what Authority, Astrological, or otherwise, he is so bold, as to Question or bespatter the Duke of *Brandenburgh's* Title? (2.) Out of what Record (setting aside *Mother Shipton*, and such like Authorities,

ties, he can prove the King of Swede not only a Northern Lyon, but a Northern Lyon Rampant? (3.) What Astrological Text favours him to predict ——— That Carolus Gustavus the great [if the God of Battels honour him with the Royalty of Denmark, and good footing in Elector William his Dominions] shall prove a sure sanctuary to the Protestants? And why either of the other (if the God of Battels prove adjuvant to them) shall not prove a Sanctuary as sure, and as great unto the Protestants, as Carolus Gustavus the great? they all being of one Faith or Religion. (4.) Whether there be a text in Christian Astrology to encourage Mr. L. to say so confidently ---- *It is as true as truth it self ---- when the League betwixt England and Sweden is dissolved, then farewell the prosperity of the English Nation?* (5.) Whether such Astrology (if Mr. L. will have it so baptiz'd) be not more likely to sow the seeds of division among Princes and Nations, and set them sooner and surer together by the ears, then any way uphold the honour of that Art Mr. L. pretends to be so great a Proficient in?

Had such Errors and Ignorances (for such they must be, since the Art they are father'd on disclaims them) been Publish'd by some Novice in Art, that had not been much known in the world, they had done the less mischief. But for one that looks upon himself as a fam'd Artift, and is commonly (though how much undeservedly, you plainly see) believed to be so, Nay, one that writes himself (though as fondly as falsely) --- *Christiana Astrologia propagator fidissimus!* for such a one, to be guilty of such gross juggling, and most apparent flatteries, it doth not onely intolerably blemish the Art, but prejudices many honest Professors thereof, --- as Mr. Booker, Wharton, Wing, Tanner, &c. who when they but hear those pitiful stories of their (pretended) foreman mentioned, it cannot but strike them into the thoughts of a just indignation against him.

*Omne Animi vitium tanto conspectum in se  
Crimen habet, quanto major qui peccat habetur.*

The Eminenter he that doth amiss,  
So much his sin, the more notorious is.

But *cui fini?* to what end do I turn Questionist to Mr. L. when all that know him, know it is not his guise to satisfy any? Let their

their demands be what they will, he is not concerned, though his reputation lye at the stake never so much ——— *Tell not me* (saith he) *of every Dogs barking at me; I have a salve to cure all again.* Let Mr. L. go on, and tell the world that he hath begun a new manner of Astrology amongst us, and that he walks in those uncouth ways that no former Author found; And crack with lying *Lucretius* at large, viz.

*A via Signorum peragro loca nullum ante  
Trita Solo; ———*

See his *Mer-  
lins*, 1648.  
1649. 1650.  
1651.

In th' midd'lt of Heavens Signs, I trace a way,  
That no man found before me to this day.

Nay, if he invade the World with a Million more of such like hyperbolical fictions and fooleries, ought he not to be beleev'd? When *Delphos* was in fashion, were any so bold, or fool-hardy as to urge a reason from their Oracle? And must it not (in Mr. L's thoughts) be unjust for any to urge him to a reason of what he writes or obtrudes upon the World? In his thoughts, did I say? Nay, in his *Merlin*, 1655. he plainly tells his Readers — *That he will from thenceforth give no Astrological Reasons* [when, or where, I pray Sir, did you ever give any?] *he having been too Copious unto an unthankful Generation of men; who might have been everlastingly in their A. B. C. without his assistance.* (— *Proprio Raus sordet in ore.*) Certainly such boasts could not but much persuade with many people, that Mr. L. is every whit as able as he proclaims himself, did they not surely know it to be the property of empty Hogheads to sound the loudest. I see not in reason how he can be said to bring others out of their A. B. C. whose onely skill is not removed a hairs bredth beyond great F. viz. Flatteries. And so I pass from his Epistle to his Book.

Sett. 2. In his General Judgements, pag. 2. he acquaints us — *That now the effects of the Comet 1572. draw near to a manifestation upon what Kingdom or Country of Europe they will pour down their Influence* — *The consideration of which, hath occasioned him to wander more then he intended concerning the Swedish King and his Achievements, &c.* — I shall not much Question the sence of the former part of these words, although they sound very Anti-Grammatically, Yet methinks if Comets have effects (which some

some very learned deny, and Mr. L. cannot prove, unless we will be contented with his Assertives for Probatives,) they should not continue 87. years; but like those of Eclipses or great Conjunctions, only remain until another of the same kind come, and put a period unto its threatned Effects.

According to which Doctrine, this Comet (which hath caused Mr. L. to wander so much from the Art he pretends to) should have ended its Effects in 1618. for then there appeared another. But to make sence of Mr. L's words, he took not the Comet, but K. of *Sweden*, &c. to be the cause of his wandering. And then the Antecedent to the Relative [wandering] stands in the place of the Consequent; and so he becomes (nevertheless) Guilty, of an Irrhetorical *ὀργάνωσις*. but it matters not much for sence, Art, or Scholarship; so we find but feignings and flatteries good store in Mr. L. his learned works, we have what we can thence rationally expect.

But he goes on and predicts further — *That the work designed by that Comet, he finds is great, and such, that neither one man or age, shall scarcely afford matter plentiful to begin its operation. — A second John Baptist is required.* He findes the work, &c. is great. He can find any thing to be small or great at his pleasure; he can make a Mountain of a Molehil, and a Molehil of a Mountain again; he can Magnifie, and diminish, without the assistance of the Optiques, *ad libitum*; so excellent a workman is learned Mr. Lilly! But doth Mr. L. hope to gain Credit among Ingenious men for such Astrology as this? A Comet (by his own confession) that stir'd up the K. of *Swede* against the *Dane*, &c. And yet now he finds (after a second staring, it seems,) *that neither a Man or Age, shall afford plentiful matter to begin its operation! Rixum tenetis amici?* Nay, doth not Mr. L. like a sullen Cow kick down (with his disdainful heel) all the good Meal of Milk, that before he produced for the K. of *Swede*? I hope Mr. L. when he complains of a paucity of plentiful Matter, doth not mean, but that the K. of *Swede* had reason in abundance to Invade the *Pollander* and *Dane*! And being stir'd up against them by the influence of this Comet twatled of. I see no reason Mr. L. hath to complain for want of plentiful matter to begin its operations. And if they be already begun, I would demand of Mr. L. what need we have of a second *John Baptist* to expound the Riddle? *I have heard a story of a Soldier with a wooden-leg, who being supposed*

sed to have a good one shot off his friends seeing him fall called out presently for a Chyrurgeon. Oh! quoth the Souldier (being better acquainted with his want) 'tis no matter for a Chyrurgeon, a Carpenter may serve the turn. All the use that I shall make of it here, is this, — that to expound those forged effects of Comets, and their tedious duration, requires not a second John Baptist, — A Lilly or Mother Shipton may do it. And so I proceed to his next contradiction. — We cannot or dare we (still you see, he hath Pigs in his belly) positively determine this present Magnanimous K. of Sweden, to be that very Person, or that so great Northern Lyon, who shall do such wonders as have been of old Prophefied. And why not Sir? as well, as to maintain him to be, A Northern Lyon Rampant? But Mr. L. since the relieving Copenhagen hath changed his Opinion; for in his *Merlin*, 1657. he positively affirmed this K. of Sweden was the man Prophefied of, by (those Divinely illuminated Cheatees,) the Sybils. Yet here he dareth not do it. Thus you see Mr. L. may affirm, and not affirm, or dare so to do, &c. he may indeed do any thing, by Priviledge. But yet it is a very raw and silly conceit of Mr. L. to think to write such notorious contradictions, and not to be noted and esteemed for them, as he deserves. Shall we believe him to be an Artist, that changes his humor just as the Times turn? or shall we not rather take him for an Arch-Temporizer? and one that makes use of an Art to cover and cloke his ignorance and flatteries? Had Mr. L. believed his Art to be indubitably real, we should have found him certain somewhere; but he poor man! Lysps and Jabbers, Shuffles and Cuts, after so ridiculous a manner, as if he were as little acquainted with Art as honesty.

But it is not against Reason (sure) for a man to demand of Mr. L. his reason for not positively affirming here, the same thing, that (with as great confidence as ignorance) he did two years since. Doth the *M. C. ad 8 h* in the K. of Swede's Nativity deter him? Or hath he all the reward he expects? If the first, 'tis but finding a transit (in his Astrology) to rancounter that, as in 1658. he did, in these words — Live most valiant Swedish King, thy Generals, &c. and be as successful as Angliens desires; And then you are promised two several Victories neer this Month. — Non obstante. Medium (Medio, it should rather have been, but that his Astrology and Latin are both of a stamp) Coeli ad Corpus Saturni, &c. If the later, cannot you send to him for the other Gold Chain,



Chain, and acquaint his Majesty, — That it is beneath the dignity of your high-fam'd Pen to spend its precious Ink Sine pretio, or for a mean reward; and one Gold Chain is too little for a Person of your fame to be guilty of so great Imposturism, as to forfeit (as much as in you lies) the honour and future glory of so splendid an Art, that you by profession pretend unto?

Well, to pass this, --- Let us trace Mr. L. a little further, and we shall find, --- Though he dare not positively affirm this K. of Sweden to be the man or Conquerour, &c. yet, that his own Motto -- *Sero sapit ingratus*, may not bite too hard upon his reputation, and he be noted to do nothing for so worthy a present, as the Gold Chain he received; In his confident ignorant Dialect, he runs on, --- *Thus much we affirmatively say --- That the present Carolus Gustavus shall prepare much matter towards the advancement of his Successors, for so great Achievements in all parts of Europe, And that the name of this Conquerour shall be, Charls, and of the Swedish Nation, and off-spring of this Carolus Gustavus, &c.*

Mira canunt, sed non credenda Poetæ.

*Things wonderful to sing is Lilly's Guise;  
But Credit none of them, if you be wise.*

In his Merlin 1657. he affirmed Carolus Gustavus now Reigning, to be the Noribern Lyon or Conquerour, &c. And yet here he affirms, *That not this, but another of his race, shall be the man.* Let him but reconcile these dislocated Predictions, and I shall believe him able also, to make good this Position.

*Nil intra est oleam; nihil extra est in nuce duri.*

Within the Olive [*\*tis beyond all doubt,*]  
There's nothing hard, Nor of the Nut without.

The most Chimerical Fanfie or Fiction in the World, is every whit worthy as much Credit, as so notorious and broad-fac'd a Contradiction. If Mr. L. from his great Patronesses the *Sybil*s, in 1657. spake truth, --- Then this present *Charls*, and not another, must be the man. If Mr. L. speak truth now, then the *Sybil*s and he were besides the truth in 1657. And is not this most excellent



(7)  
excellent Christian Astrology! *The K. of Swede, shall be, and yet  
he shall not be the Conquerour!*

Dic quibus in terris, & eris mihi magnus Apollo.

*Great Sir! but tell me, how both may be true,  
And take Apollo's Bayes to be your due.*

When Mr. L. can make the two Members of a contradiction accord, he may (I suppose) make good these his wild and extravagant Assertions. Howbeit Mr. L. deems it but Reasonable, that he be believed in what he says, let it be never so contrary to truth, or contradictory in it self; he being (as he supposes) *Princeps Astrologorum*. And what is he that shall dare to do the contrary? however, I shall run the hazard of Mr. L's Censure in this kind for once; and demand by what Authority Sybillical, Cabalistical or other, he is warranted to design the name of this great Conquerour to be Charls, &c.

*The Stars name none, and surely Mr. Lilly,  
In saying they do, proclaims himself most Silly.*

The Names of Persons are such contingent things, that it were (considering their dependence upon the humors of conceited Gossips, whose wills and fancies are the sole and alone disposers thereof) a reasonless thing to force Astrology to father them. But I the less wonder at his refusing to render Reasons of what he Annually obtrudes upon the understandings of men; because he cannot but be sensible that his *Merlins* or Almanacks, are only as Shops or Warehouses furnished with the worser sort of Drugs, and Rif-raff; himself standing in the midst of them, just as *Horace* describes his Petty-Chapman.

Vilia vendentem tunicato Serula popello.

*Active in selling, to the vulgar man,  
His trash [for truth,] at small Price (if he can.)*

The learned I am out of doubt know Mr. L's shifts, and pious effeminate evasions; the Ignorant in time may discover them.

In pag. 8. Mr. L. tells us, — *This vernal Figure of Heaven promisseth the Lord Protector of England very fair, from his Allies beyond Sea.* But how dares Mr. L. (unless he dare do any thing) raise a judgement either upon the Lord P. or any else, from a Scheme so notoriously untrue? Nothing less then 41<sup>6</sup>. of time distant from the truth; as is demonstrated by Mr. Wing in his Ολύμπια Δύματα for the same year; with whom agree most others. And is it not a pretty Riddle, that Mr. L. which fails thus in the ordinary Principles of the Art [*viz.* 41 min. of time in such a Figure wherein an Artist cannot be too precise] should be accounted the onely Father and Restorer of Astrology? But the *Enigma* is explained; did not Mr. L. every year Claw the great Ones by the shoulders, his cunning would not by many degrees be so much in request above the ordinary Almanack-makers, as his skill is below them.

But he, at his high-rated confidence goes on, predicting that — *The Princes of the Earth are very fierce one against the other; Nothing but War, Destruction, Death, utter Ruine of one another, will give them satisfaction.* And yet he Pipes out nothing but Honour, Renown, Conquest and Victory, to the L. P. of England, and K. of Sweden; as if they were quite out of the Number of the Princes of the Earth! And on the contrary, by the Princes of the Earth, he intends onely the Kings of Denmark, and Poland, &c. *Anglicæ*, such as engage against the greatness of Sweden. But surely had any other Astrologer predicted prejudice, or ought else at so wild a rate, (as Mr. L. here doth) concerning Princes; Mr. L. would have been the first man that should have saluted him with, —

Ὁ μὴ ἀναδιδόνει τὴν μῆτιν, κεφαλαιόβερε.

*Ab! Flattering Knaves! Clad with high Impudence.*

But I spare Mr. L. although his Prefages hang together, *velut ægri somnia*, — like sick mens dreams, and are not by the wisest head to be reconciled.

Now Mr. L. having spent his pains (to as little purpose as you have heard) in predicting things to depend on the Figure of the Suns Ingress; is come to the Moons Eclipse in April. — And tells us — *That it begins at 6 h. 22 min. P.M. and ends at 9 h. 20 m.*

*where*

whence (saith he) the duration thereof, is 3 h. 15 min. But had Mr. L. been pleased to have proved his operations, he might have found, that from such a beginning and end as he assigns, such a duration could not possibly Emerge; But on the contrary, 2 h. 58 min. Which gross Ignorance in so ordinary and common a piece of Art, proclaims his whole skill to be but weak and worthless, and his Judgement insipid and unsavory. Thus you see, that he who boasts that all others might have been in their *A. B. C.* without his assistance, is himself ignorant of the first Principles of the Science he pretends to. And without doubt had Mr. L. but presented us with the Figure of this Eclipse, we should have found it as true, as the other but lately noted.

But be his Figures right or wrong, Mr. L. proceeds to judgement (his name I think should properly have been *upins*) according to his preceding Method (and he propounded none at all) and rufflingly acquaints us --- *That this Eclipse will cause a great ruffling both of the Dane and Dutch to regain the Sound; but they will sooner overthrow the great Mogul, or Grand Signior, then reconquer the Sound, out of his possession that now hath it in keeping, viz. Charls Gustavus K. of Sweden, &c.* I would gladly demand, how it is possible for such particular Actions and Accidents of Princes to be spelt, or smelt out of Eclipses of the Moon; since the Effects thereof are not by many able Artists received for certain, but remain disputable? Is it not therefore, Interest rather than Art, that causeth him thus to write? certain it is, Astrologers agree --- *An Artist may be enabled to Predict much good, or prejudice, to happen to Persons from their Nativities truly known: But they conclude it altogether impossible for the best of Artists to point at the particular Persons, or Places, by whom, or where, they shall receive the same.* And that is the meaning of *Ptol. Cent. Aphor. 1.* How then dares Mr. L. (without all Authority or Reason) prate in so high a strain, that is (questionless) incompetent to any, except God himself? But to follow Mr. L. a little further; if we shall consider the force of the *M. C. ad 8 h.* in the K. of Swedes Nativity, there was a great deal more Reason for Mr. L. to have judged, that he should rather lose the Sound, then keep it. And had not Mr. L. endeavoured to appear Anti-Astrological in his writings, he could not but know, that that had been (by far) the more Art-like Prediction. Albeir, Mr. L. goes on, and saith --- *For whom Heavens have ordained Rampant and Victorious, In vain it is*

for man, or men, to withstand his rising. But (saith he) since we may seem to speak in clouds, we intend in this discourse onely the *Victorious Armies of his Majesty of Sweden to be the Person so powerful, &c.* If Mr. L. in all *Farnabee's Rhetorique*, can but find a figure that doth in the least favour so strange a passage as this before us, I shall acknowledge him better read therein then I am. He intends onely the *Victorious Armies of his Majesty of Sweden, to be the Person, &c.* May not a man (that is not encompassed with Mr. L's Clouds) as reasonably, and with as good sence, and propriety of speech, in commendation of Mr. L. say -- *By such a Discourse, we onely intend the many unparallel'd Profelytes of Mr. L. to be the Person so learned in Astrology among us?* I appeal to the Judgements of all understanding men, whether Mr. L. be guilty of more sence in the passage urged before, then this amounts to. If Mr. L. ever went to School, he cannot but remember that Boys have been whipp'd for far smaller faults. But these are onely slight dashes of his *He-Sparrow's quill*, as one of his Antagonists, once (in vain) minded him of. But,

———— Plus fortent Stercora mora. (i.)

*Dunghils the more you stir, the more they stink.*

Mr. L. after long flattering the K. of *Swede*, and fore threatening the *Dane, Hollander, &c.* if they engage against that Victorious Prince whom the Heavens (in his flattering Dialect) have ordain'd Rampant, betakes himself to a very convenient starting-hole. If in case it should so fall out, that the K. of *Swede* do not prosper so well, as he Prophecies, &c. And (like a good Christian Astrologer, maintains) *The best Army, or longest sword, hath the best Cause.* By which it appears, that Mr. L's Religion is as rotten and corrupted, as his Astrology and Theurgy unfound.

But to follow Mr. L. a little further yet. ——— (though not *ex nihilo*) doth he not insinuate the *Hollander, and Dane*, to have the best cause, in case the God of Battels give them the Victory over the K. of *Sweden*? Nay, may we not estimate Mr. L's Conscience to be of so large a size, that if the *Dane* or *Hollander* would but Grease him, as the K. of *Swede* hath done, or but a little more, Mr. L. as the Proverb is, would Claw them again; and in his next Merlin would appear as confident on the side of the *Mag-*

*namous K. of Denmark, and the High and Mighty States of Holland, as now he hath for the Victorious and Rampant K. of Sweden.*

But surely Mr. L. cannot be of so unstable a judgement, nor doth he mean, or insinuate any such thing, as that the Hollander or Dane, can be thought to have the best cause, although they should fortune to have the longest Sword, or best Army. And that you may know him to be of a quite contrary Opinion, to what his now cited words import, he bursts into a flattery of the first Magnitude for the Swede, to the absolute ruine of the Hollander, &c. in these words. — *Beware Hollanders of affronting his Majesty of Swedens Navy, or Sea-Forces, or his most certain Friend the present English L. P. any of his Navy, or particular Ships: His Majesty of Swede, and our Protector have the most masculine spirited Sea-men of the whole World, and a gracious Guardian Angel (therein is Mr. Lillies greatest skill) for to protect both their persons and forces, &c.* — *This Eclipse threatens breach of Peace between England and Holland [how know you that Sir? ♂ and ♀ are therein in Δ; and can Δs in your Astrology produce Breaches?] and from thence a War, and that so great, as the former may be thought a trifle. Our Noble Sea-men are promised Victory, [what, before they have an Enemy to engage against?] for in Waters upon the waters, upon people who live like Fishes, wholly upon the waters, and subsist by Seas and waters [Tautology is no sin with Mr. L.] will the Influence of this Eclipse take place; therefore our Swedish Sea-Forces, shall transmit thousands of the Dutch Sea-men unto the Fishes for their better Nutriment.*

*Quid dignum tanto feret hic promissor hiatu?*

*Would you the truth of such great Victory?*

*'Tis Lillie's Guise to promise his Friends high.*

I might demand of Mr. L. (in relation to this his Notorious Non-sequitur, wherefore he brings his strange therefore? And whether the consequence would not as roundly have followed, had the premises been turned the contrary way? But let Mr. L. go on, and chaunt forth (yet further) his Syren Songs of flattery to the K. of Sweden, and tell him — *That he shall be as great as Charls the great, &c.* the M.C. to the body of Saturn, will prove him to be a person that keeps *Mendacium* as a Page to his Pen and Tongue.

But notwithstanding this so insolent threat of his to the poor Hollander, If he have but the good hap to get the longest Sword, and the best Army, (they are Mr. L's own words) he hath the best Cause.

*Cause*; And then (if Mr. L. say sooth) he may by this Eclipse be impowered to transmit thousands of the Swedes Sea-men to feed the Fishes; as likely as the Swedes theirs. But I hope both those Nations will be more prudent, then adhere to any such reasonless Flatteries and Threats, as Mr. L's Silly Pamphlets are constantly stuffed with. So I proceed from his Annual Judgements, to his Mensural Fopperies.

*Señt. 3.* In January he Prophecies — *That some peremptory Spirits divulge frivolous Tenents, and their Crabby opinions, to the disturbance of the Magistrate in several places.* But there hath as little success answered this whimsical Prefage, as he had ground in Art to Predict it, the first part onely excepted, which he (it may be) foresaw his own ridiculous scribbling to make good. He proceeds, and tattles of *An eminent person to suffer disgrace.* Which he may possibly interpret to some one of the Ladies (for the Sex he mentions not) who were carried to *Bridewell* upon suspicion of dishonesty about the beginning of *February*; for you must know his Predictions emit Rayes.

In *February*, he talks of *a Storm to happen to those persons near the Sea-shore, that are Enemies to the greatness of Sweden.* But were there any truth in Monethly Predictions (a work at which Mr. L. is old excellent!) how came he to Miss so grossly in this? There was a storm 'tis true, but the heat thereof fell upon the *Swedes*; which Mr. L. no more foresaw, then the creeping of the *Scotch K.* into England. But that you may know him to be the all-sufficient Astrologer of England, he goes on — *Some Plot once more in contrivance, to make division, &c.* But, —

*There was no Plot, save that which keeps us poor;*  
as Mr. Wharton wittily Noted in his *Cal. Eccl. 1659.* Unless to that we add Mr. L's design to disgrace Astrology.

In *March* Mr. L. Cants after his wonted rate, of *Englands Guardian Angel.* In such whimsies he should have the right hand of *Jo. Blagrove*; yet they are confidents of a stamp; And God knows, a Guardian Angel may be somewhat to Eat, for any knowledge either of them have thereof. But to keep in with the *K. of Swedes*, Mr. L. tells the World, *That he is, and will be sole Master of the Sound.* But (a little after saith he) *we arrive not yet with our pen to the Baltique Sea, &c.* As if the Sound were at some considerable distance from the Baltique Sea. I see by this, his good Genius doth now and then deceive him. Toward the  
Months



Moneths end, he writes — *Some now flatter our Nation.* Which is a admirably well verified by his own clawing the late Protector, And is not that a rare Artist, that can so order his matter, *let things fall out which way they will, his Predictions* (like a Cat) *shall still happen right upon their Legs?*

In April (as if he were ashamed of his former clawing humor) he tells us — *That there are several confederacies made against the Swede.* But how should we credit Mr. L. in this? who are they that dare Confederate against him, whom heavens have ordained Rampant and Victorious? Or what success in such undertaking can they hope for? *When they, not onely fight against heaven, but must grapple also with the dire Amulet of a Guardian Angel, and Mr. L's sower Predictions.* But he goes on — *A Plague or new Disease, and Pyracry from the Western parts, division, uncertain Rumors and fears, threaten us.* — And yet (saith he) *The Month in general promiseth fair to City and Country.* I confess my self ignorant in the Cabal of such a Canting strain. 'Tis just like that of the Saryrists *Tyresias* — *Quicquid dicam, aut erit, aut non.* Whatsoever he saith, shall either be, or not be.

In May his Ignorance and flattery is so obvious, that each boy in the street is able to lend him a squib for it. Hear him a little: *The English L. P. now enters upon action, and manifests himself to the whole World, that he hath great abilities to govern, &c.* And a little after, *R. L. P. stoops not, is not terrified with words, provides for all occasions* — *is made happy with several most welcome News unto him.* And behold! The very same time that he had Calculated this auspicious Prediction for, the Protector mildly made a resignation of his Power, Protectorship and all! which Mr. L. being twitted with, *in a scurrile base manner call'd him fool!* But 'tis one of the least of his Infolencies; for so he abused the present Parliament when turn'd out by the Protector Oliver; though to the skyes he had magnified them before. As I may hereafter more largely inform the World of.

In June he saith — *Some dangerous design is now prepared against his Highness.* But here he is proved a lying Prophet; for his Highness was laid by the last month. In July, he Temporizes, but not fitly, that — *the wisdom of our Protector and Council, gives the whole world occasion to know, that the present affairs of England are in a good posture.* But had we had then a Protector, his Prediction nevertheless had proved a lie. For at the same time, our affairs were like to have been blown up by the Enemies then among us; witness the *Cheshire* Insurrection. But Mr. L. will say perhaps that he was to be understood by an *avril*. His Readers ought to be so understood indeed, when they report him an *Astrologer*.



In August he feigns---That some Church-men, &c. obtain more then vulgar preferment (that they must do sure, if they obtain any at all) yet toward the end he Predicts---That Fryers and Monks suffer every where. Now let them either obtain preferment or suffer, you see Mr. L. hath hit it to a hair; and will speak truth still (in despite of the father of Lies) though at a most horrible lying rate.

In September, he acquaints the world---That the death of many Commanders may be feared. But this Prediction (if Mr. L. could have hit so right) might better have fitted February, at what time so many were slain at the Storming Copenhagen. He goes on---A sad doom is preparing and ready to fall upon some Northern people; a judgement it is like to be of continuance ('tis no matter, so it never come to execution!) not easily removable; it smells of servitude and bondage. Now let the K. of Swede be routed, or Rout the Dane, &c. here's a Preface to fit the foot of either, and Mr. L.'s credit secure. If Captivity overtake him whom Heaven fights for, 'tis no fault of Mr. L.'s; for he hath discharged the part of a good Astrologer in this very Prediction. In October, he twattles at the same rate. And should it so happen that Mr. L.'s; Lyon Rampant be overcome, he is not the first (may Mr. L. say) that hath been so: did not Samson slay a Lyon?

In November Mr. L. talks as confidently, as vainly ---The Swedes are not retired to their Winter Quarters, having some honourable work to perform. He had done the K. of Swede more service (and the Art he professeth more honour,) to have acquainted him, that then the Sun will be Eclipsed in Scorpio, neer his Radical place in that K's Nativity. But *Merlinus Verax* hath done that for him.

To end his Notorious piece of Flattery --- In December he concludes Hypothetically --- If Carolus Gustave the Great K. of Swede, write himself Rex Danæ, possessor of Copenhagen, make W. of Brandenburg repent in Sackcloth and Ashes, Kick and Cuff the Hogens of Holland out of the Baltique Sea, and Petition his Majesty (I spare the Non-sence hereof) in Quality of distressed States; Let them hereafter beware of fighting against Providence. Thus ends this Metropolitan Artist! and to make an end of following him, I will only demand of him what reason he hath (besides the Gold Chain) to insinuate the loss of the K. of Denmark's Crowns? did ever any man that had any thing of Art in him, before, conclude it possible for that K. to loose his Kingdom, that had the Sun in Aries in the mid-heaven, in Trine to the Ascendant of which he is Lord? Let Mr. L. produce but one Astrological reason or experiment, and---*Erit mihi Magnus Apollo*. Nay, he shall be (by me) honoured as the second John Baptist, which he saith is required. But if he cannot, Let him blush at his ill-tempered confidence, for broaching such broad-fac'd Barbarisms for Art. By which Penitency, he may obtain a better Opinion of all those, whose understandings he hath for many years together most grossly deluded.

#### POSTSCRIPT.

IF Mr. L. this next year, write his recantation-Almanack, Let him for his Credit's sake acquit himself (if so be he be able) of the several Errors and Ignorances charged upon him in this Discourse: If he refuse this advice, and publish another Mess of Flatteries, Falsities, and Non-sence, in the form of an Almanack; he will then only put me to the trouble of another Examen; and suffer his Reputation to run into the quicksands of a far greater hazard and danger.

#### FINIS.

Hereunto is annexed,

The NATALITY of the King of SWEDEN.

